

SOUTH AFRICAN LIBRARIES

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REPORT OF THE FIRST TRIENNIAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

HELD AT JOHANNESBURG, ON SEPTEMBER 25 and 26, 1933

Present: Mr. A. C. G. LLOYD (President) in the Chair, and 43 members and delegates.

I. OPENING ADDRESSES

Principal H. R. Raikes

Ladies and Gentlemen: I have to apologise to the Conference for not being able to attend to-day because the members of the University Grants Committee insist on my going there, and of course I must look after them and see that we get the right-sized grant for next year! The University is very glad indeed that the Conference should meet here to-day and I would also like to draw your attention to the documents that I have placed on the table here, which give the details of the scheme for the Diploma of the South African Library Association, which we are going to discuss tomorrow. I hope everyone is going to take away a copy and read it so that you may know what I am talking about when I discuss it tomorrow. I hope the Conference will be a very successful one but I am afraid I must ask you to let me withdraw for to-day.

Weëns gebrek aan ruimte is dit onmoontlik om die verslag van die Konferensie ook in Afrikaans te druk.

His Worship the Mayor of Johannesburg (Councillor B. C. Vickers)

Mr. President, Mr. Hofmeyr, Ladies and Gentlemen: I have great pleasure in extending a warm welcome to the Hon. Minister of Education and the members and delegates of the South African Library Association. The choice of Johannesburg as the meeting-place of the first Triennial Conference is indeed an honour, for it implies the recognition of Johannesburg as an important educational centre. Johannesburg is one of the first of the large centres in South Africa to realize the importance of a free library for its citizens. The City Council is, at the moment, engaged in the building of a new library, together with the usual library departments, and a scientific and general museum. We, in Johannesburg, realize the importance of co-operation in building up a national system of libraries. Since the inception of your Association, great progress has been made. Pretoria and Benoni have established free libraries there, Pretoria has also opened a Central Library for students and Bloemfontein has started a free library for children. I trust the Conference will be animated by a spirit of mutual happiness and co-operation.

The Hon. The Minister of Education, Mr. Jan H. Hofmeyr

Mr. President, Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen: I think I must commence by saying a word of thanks for the welcome extended to myself, although I must say I am rather inclined to think that I have as much right to welcome the Mayor to this building as he has in welcoming me to Johannesburg.

I am not sure in which capacity I am here this morning. I suppose as Minister of Education, I may be assumed to have a large part in libraries, but I only touch libraries as Minister of the Interior. That confusion, if I may call it so, is perhaps in a sense characteristic of the uncertainty which prevails in regard to the relationship of public libraries to the State. Public libraries are one of the things which hover in the dim and murky twilight between the Provinces and the Union Government, and far be it from me to say which is on the day side and which on the night! Briefly, the position to-day is this. Under the Financial Relations Act of 1913, it was prescribed that the right of controlling public libraries and making grants to them could, by proclamation, be conferred upon the Provincial Administrations, one exception being made and that in regard to the libraries at Cape Town and Pretoria which were regarded as being of a national character. Such a proclamation, transferring the responsibility from the Union Government to the Provincial

Administrations, has been made in respect of the Cape and the Transvaal, but not in respect of Natal and the Free State. The Natal and the Free State Provincial Councils alike have no right to legislate about libraries and they have no right to make grants to public libraries. The Cape Provincial Council has consistently supported public libraries and voted them a matter of £9,000 a year. The Transvaal has supported libraries spasmodically, the present period not being one of the spasms!

From the point of view of results, the present position is not very satisfactory. At the same time, I think one has to admit that it is not altogether as illogical as it seems. After all, 'public libraries' is accepted, to a large extent, as a matter of local interest. We are all prepared to agree that the local authority has a big interest in library facilities. We all regard it as appropriate that a large authority such as Johannesburg should be maintaining, out of the rate, a free library. If once you take that view, you have to go on to remember that in our constitutional organization, the Provincial Councils are recognised as not only supervising local government, but also filling gaps. It is part of the Provincial Council's duty to perform the Government's duties where no local government exists. We can see the reason why Parliament took steps to devolve this particular obligation on the Provincial Councils. If to-day, there should be any desire to press for a re-transference of responsibility from the Provinces to the Union Government, one ought to remember that the present tendency of policy is not towards centralization, but rather towards maintenance and extension of provincial duties. To that end, the Provincial Commission has recently been appointed. This question is one which might very appropriately be brought to the notice of that Commission. But until that Commission has reported, it would not be appropriate for the Government to take any steps to change the present position. It is hardly possible to make a statement of policy to you in regard to libraries, either as Minister of Education, or as Minister of the Interior. I would like to be here this morning as a lover of books. I sometimes think of a line of Marlowe's: "Infirmity riches in a little room." It is a very happy phrase and we cannot stress too much the importance of the library profession from that point of view. Unfortunately, we, here in South Africa, can hardly yet claim to be a nation of readers. We are inclined to pluck at the pleasures of the day but to neglect the heritage of the past and the challenge of the future. To that extent we are neglecting one of the greatest boons that civilization has brought to us. Sometimes we trifle with the question: what is the biggest boon in modern civilization? I am not so sure that it is not the increasing accessibility of books to the ordinary

and average man. In South Africa we have not gone so far as we might have to avail ourselves of that privilege. We are not a reading nation to the extent we ought to be. Still, we can claim that there has been a definite move forward. Our public is becoming to be a reading public. It is more noticeable on the Afrikaans speaking side; there has been a particularly noticeable advance together with the advance in its literature which is a popular literature. The advance on the English speaking side is not so definite, but there too, we have procured one or two writers of real genius and it has also stimulated reading on the English speaking side. We are also making advances in the matter of our public library profession; otherwise we would not be here to-day. This is one of the fields where the South African Library Association owes much to the Carnegie Corporation. We have been somewhat remiss in expressing our thanks to this Corporation. We owe them a great deal in this matter of libraries. They made possible the visit of Messrs. Pitt and Ferguson, which culminated in the Bloemfontein Conference, and marked an epoch in library history. All developments date from that Conference. At that Conference, an ambitious programme was put forward, embodying ideals that you wish to realize. Needless to say, they have not all been realized, but we note with gratification the progress that has been made in the space of five years, which has been a difficult period from the economic point of view in the history of South Africa. The establishment of this Library Association, is making possible the banding together of all interested in library activities, and making possible too, the laying down of sound principles for the advance of librarianship. The recent publication by your Association of a Journal, which is certainly very welcome, is again something on which you can be congratulated. Then you have taken in hand the question of education in librarianship. You have held special vacation courses in librarianship; you have also started correspondence courses. You have now got to the stage of being able to initiate courses for the South African Diploma in librarianship. Then co-operation between libraries has been developed. Smaller institutions have got in contact with larger institutions with a view to making use of their resources. The number of free libraries has increased to seven. Several new buildings have gone up, or rather are going up. Here in Johannesburg there are two going up—the Municipal and the University Library. I am very glad, also, to mention that, thanks to the assistance of the Carnegie Corporation, facilities have been made for the provision of books for the non-European population of South Africa. Finally, there is the big new forward step in Pretoria, where again, thanks to the help of the Carnegie Corporation, the State Library has been converted into a free students'

library for the whole of South Africa, as well as a free library for the students in Pretoria. I am sure you are not satisfied (I hope not) but we can at least be pleased with the results so far. It is only from a divine discontent that progress comes. You must not tend to under-estimate your own achievements or the difficulties in the way of your progress.

There are some 230 odd libraries in South Africa and only in eight of them are librarians receiving over £200 per year. It sounds terrible, but many of these libraries are very small. I am inclined to think that the time would not be ripe to legislate on the lines of compelling local authorities to establish free libraries—I think they have to do it on voluntary action until public opinion is ripe. I notice on one of your publications a motto: "Give the people light and they will find their own way." I like mottoes and this is a very good one. But I think it does not mean merely giving the people light in the sense of providing the books. They need the light in realizing the importance of having books and the importance of public libraries. A good deal has to be done in the matter of the education of public opinion.

Well, Ladies and Gentlemen, I do very heartily wish you good success in your undertakings. I hope all the ideals you have set yourselves will be realised and that you will be able to make big contributions and at a rapid rate continue making contributions, both in the development of the reading instinct of the people in South Africa and in impressing our public with the importance of the place that public libraries should fill. I have very great pleasure in now declaring the Conference open.

The President

Ladies and Gentlemen: When we met together three years ago to form this Association, we did so with a two-fold object. Firstly, to better the library service to the public, and secondly to better the conditions for ourselves. This organization has had to be set going in a period of financial distress which has been more severe than the oldest amongst us remembers. We have read of even the rich libraries of California, whose incomes have made our mouths water, of their being unable to buy a book for a whole year. We have read of libraries in the Eastern States of America being unable to pay their salaries for a year. We have even heard of our old friend, Mr. Pitt, having to close down five of his branches. We, in South Africa, have had to watch the Transvaal cutting down its grants altogether. We have seen the Cape reducing its grants very much, but as John Bunyan said: "He that is low need fear no fall." We librarians in South Africa have

always been low. We have learnt how to meet distress, and in spite of the distress, there has been a great deal of achievement. Perhaps the greatest of all has been keeping open at all in many of the libraries of the smaller towns of South Africa.

Now, Mr. Hofmeyr has largely reviewed what we have done, but we have two objects, the one to better the service to the public, and the other to better the conditions for ourselves. Well, let us glance backwards for a moment to see what we have done.

First of all, we have held three library schools in Durban. Not having been there myself, I am afraid I do not know how far they have been useful in the professional sense, but of this I am sure — good must come out of the meeting together of members of our Association. I am sure that it gives us a professional consciousness. We feel that it is not just a refuge for poor relations of civic dignitaries. I am quite sure that the discussion of the problems that confront the smaller librarians particularly, with their confrères, must do a great deal of good. I would like to read a word or two by Henry Bradshaw addressed to the English Library Association in 1882, about 51 years ago.

"I am convinced that in every library, however insignificant in extent, good ideas will be started and practical suggestions worked out, which the most experienced librarian will do well to take note of and perhaps to adopt. No library is too small to afford scope for such ideas. No librarian is so great that he can afford to neglect such suggestions..."

Now, in the 25 years during which I have been head of the Library, in which I am at present, I have had two visits from librarians in South Africa. Now I would beg of you, whenever any of you are on holiday or when you are on a motor trip, do make a practice of calling on the librarian, especially of any small town you have been to or are passing through. You may learn something from the smallest library — some little method that you might put into practice. But apart from that, you can give them encouragement; you can discuss their problems with the local librarians. Remember, they are isolated; you can make them feel that they are not alone. I do beg you then to make a practice of calling on every small library you come to. I should like to think that if I am still in harness in five years' time, I shall have had far more visits from my professional brethren than I have had in the last 25. The great value of our annual schools has not been what we have learnt from the lectures so much but in meeting each other to discuss each other's problems and give encouragement to one another. That is the first interest we have had.

The second thing is, that the Transvaal Branch has started Correspondence Courses in Librarianship, and they are under the direction of Mr. R. F. Kennedy, with the assistance of tutors. We have no longer now to look overseas. It is no longer necessary for young library students to get all their coaching from London or America. In this, much good work has been done and the Association is very grateful to those who have undertaken the task of professional coaching and to those who are taking such care to teach the students the technical side of our profession.

Another thing we have done is the formation of a professional library. Every member of this Association can borrow books from the professional library. This is making it easy for library assistants to get all the literature necessary to make themselves thoroughly competent as far as books, outside practical experience, can do.

A very important point is the visit of our indefatigable Secretary here to 75 libraries. We hear on all sides of the good his visits have done. We know too of his success in arranging co-operative schemes, and the professional advice he has given to those isolated librarians who can never talk over their problems, has been a real help. He can tell them the best way of doing things, and if you should visit one of the smaller libraries especially before and after one of these visits, you will find the results of the great good Mr. Stirling has done, and all this is entirely to the credit of the Carnegie Corporation for their assistance.

This brings me to the Carnegie grants for the Coloured People's Libraries. No doubt you have all read Miss Hewitt's paper and, of course, we are only at the beginning. Each of the centres to which these grants have been given has very different problems. Perhaps we are more fortunate in the Western Province, and our difficulties have not been quite so great. We at the Cape have certain coloured folk on our Committee, and they were asked to make their own list of books that they would like to see in the Coloured People's Library. I got a shock to see the first books on the list to be the big compendiums of H. G. Wells on History, Economics and Biology and after that some works of Bertrand Russell. I thought, "This is rather high-browed!" but they were very insistent and altogether the list was quite astonishing. I tried to put a brake on and to get them to understand that we are not all of the same mental age, but it was of no use. Nevertheless, it was quite encouraging, and I suppose our wants and needs and beliefs are rather different. Perhaps these Coloured People's Libraries have not been going long enough to give them sufficient experience to know the best manner in which to act. I have an idea, though, that we are

likely to have a lot of trouble in the future as the coloured population asks for more books. Many of us are likely to have a large demand and an increasing demand for our coloured people to use the public libraries. Some libraries, I know, do not make a colour-bar, but I think it might become an embarrassment and it is therefore our duty to do everything we can to form libraries specially for their benefit. My personal opinion is that it is the duty of our Association to do everything possible, in every possible way, to encourage, develop, advise and help with our experience, this non-European library movement.

The sixth thing I would like to mention is that we have started a library Journal, to be issued free to all members. It is in the hands of Mr. Freer who is acting as Hon. Editor and Miss Hartmann, Assistant Editor.

Now let us take the other side — our other object to do something for ourselves. Ladies and Gentlemen, if we first of all better library service to the public, we can then rouse public consciousness to better our own conditions. 35 years ago, I got my first library appointment. I knew the rigid conditions in the free library service in England at that time. That position has been entirely altered by the English Association. The municipal and free library services offered no career for students. To-day, librarianship is a career and it is increasingly being entered into. The English free libraries have now provided a career for graduates and for people who have a very much higher educational standard than was the case when I had my first library appointment. If then we improve our own educational status and professional qualifications, and if we give a better service to the public, then the public will do justice to us. The service is so much improved in America and England because the libraries are giving better service to the public. I just want to read some figures to you which will show there is a great deal of room for improvement.

To take 9 libraries in towns of South Africa with a population between 10,000 and 30,000, the average salary for the librarian is £310 per year. The Assistant's salary is less than £12 per month. In smaller libraries in towns with about 10,000 inhabitants, the average salary for the librarian is £16 per month, and for the Assistant £8 per month. In 27 towns with about 5,000 inhabitants, the librarian receives £7-10-0 per month. In the bulk of the libraries, the average salary of the librarian is £40 a year, and they have to work at least 12 or 14 hours a day, on and off. The lowest salary is £1 per month. That is the average of 81 libraries, and I would not even like to mention the libraries which pay no salaries at all.

I think then there is plenty of room for improvement, and it is for the

Association to take up the case of these places. Whether these conditions will ever improve while libraries are on a subscription basis, receiving the major part of their incomes from voluntary subscriptions, I doubt, but even during this transitional period (as Mr. Hofmeyr thinks the days of the voluntary system have to go a long time still) it is up to us to bring to the notice of the small-town libraries, the wickedness of paying an average salary of £40 per year ! I don't think I need enlarge on this.

Then I do want to express our thanks, first of all, to the Carnegie Corporation. Fortunately, it has been done by Mr. Hofmeyr far better than I could have done, but let me add the thanks of ourselves — the professionals — to the Carnegie Fund, which has done so much to rouse a professional consciousness, which has made possible this Conference, the Library School and our Secretary.

Secondly, I wish to thank Mr. Freer and his assistant for their undertaking the editing of our Journal, which will, in course of time, be the link between us all, and will do so much to protect and help our weaker brethren and teach them they are not forgotten. I have heard very many asking, since this organization has been going : "But what do you do ?" We had no public organ previously, and isolated members did not know what we were trying to do. In future, I hope our organ will tell — particularly the people who are far away — what the Council is doing on their behalf.

Lastly, I have to thank our Secretary, Mr. Stirling. The amount of work our Secretary has done has been quite extraordinary. I have had as many as five letters in a single day from him — in fact, it is a rare day when I do not receive five ! If this is a criterion of what Mr. Stirling has done, and the volume of what his work must have been, well, Ladies and Gentlemen, he has worn himself thin on our behalf. He is visibly thinner than he was in 1928, and thinner still than when we saw him in 1930. I am voicing the opinion of us all, I am sure, in passing him our thanks.

II. MINUTES

The Minutes of the inaugural General Meeting of the Association, held at Bloemfontein on July 5, 1930, were read in Afrikaans by the Secretary and confirmed.

III. TRIENNIAL REPORT AND STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS

The Report of the Association for the three years ended June 30, 1933 and audited Statement of Accounts for the same period were submitted and adopted. [Already circulated].

IV. ELECTION OF ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL

Miss D. Riley, and Mr. E. A. Borland were appointed scrutineers to open the ballot papers and count the votes. The following were declared to be elected to the Administrative Council for the three years ending June 30, 1936—

Mr. A. C. G. LLOYD, as President
Mr. PERCY FREER, as Vice-President
Mr. M. M. STIRLING, as Secretary

and

Miss MARY HEWITT	Mr. (now Dr.) JOHN G. GUBBINS
Mr. S. B. ASHER	Professor W. H. LOGEMAN
Mr. CHARLES CHRISTIE	Mr. DUGALD NIVEN
Mr. F. W. COOPER	Mr. PAUL RIBBINK
	Mr. FRANKLIN H. ROOKE

V. AMENDMENT OF CONSTITUTION

It was decided that article II of the Constitution requiring that the Association be registered should be eliminated.

VI. LIBRARY PLANNING

A lecture on Library planning was delivered by Mr. Percy Freer. Mr. Freer's lecture was subsequently printed in *South African Libraries* for January 1934.

VII. GOVERNMENT RESPONSIBILITY FOR LIBRARIES

Mr. M. M. Stirling moved —

“that the Union Government be urged to assume responsibility for all South African Public Libraries and to bring South Africa into line with other civilized countries by means of a Public Libraries Act for the Union.”

The mover said—

“Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen : The reasons for the motion standing in my name are so obvious that it is unnecessary for me to elaborate on them at great length.

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Public Libraries, like public health, are essentially a national affair, and it is high time they were removed from the irresponsible and incapable hands of the Provinces. Education, as understood by Provincial Administrations, begins with the kindergarten and ends finally and with a burst of great brilliance in matriculation. To the Provincial Councillor, whatever else libraries may be, they are certainly not educational institutions and, as an examination of any local Government Ordinance will show, libraries are inextricably mixed up in his mind with public wash-houses, dust bins and charitable institutions. If you will examine any Provincial Budget, you will look in vain for any mention of libraries under Education. If you find them at all, which is extremely unlikely, you will find them under the appropriate heading "Miscellaneous." By the Financial Relations Act of 1913, the administration of all Public Libraries, with two exceptions, was handed over to the Provincial Administrations with perfectly deplorable results. Prior to the passing of this Act, the Union Government supported Public Libraries to the extent of £9,300 a year in the Cape, £450 in the Free State, in the Transvaal to the extent of £4,000 and in Natal to the extent of £800. To-day the Transvaal and the Free State Provincial authorities pay nothing in Library Grants and Natal pays £200 a year. The Cape Administration is the only one which has consistently continued to support libraries although in a very mean and paltry way. If the stoppage or reduction of their miserable grants were all, it would be bad enough, but no Provincial authority has ever taken a single step to encourage or develop its Public Library service in any way.

There is one thing, of which we may be absolutely certain, the removal of Public Libraries from the hopeless jurisdiction of the Provinces will occasion no outcry from these bodies. For I am convinced that the change will not even be noticed by 99 out of every 100 Provincial Councillors and Officials, and the odd hundredth will be too uninterested to care. With the resumption of the care of Public Libraries by the Union Government, it is essential that a proper South African Public Libraries Act should be passed as soon as possible to provide for the proper maintenance and administration of libraries: in towns by the Municipal authorities and in rural areas by the Government. There is scarcely a Public Library in the Union that is not hopelessly underfinanced and understaffed and utterly unable to provide proper library service to the public or even to pay its staff a living wage."

After discussion, the motion was unanimously adopted.

VIII. PROVINCIAL FINANCE COMMISSION

It was decided that the Association send a deputation to give evidence on the unsatisfactory position of South African Public Libraries, before the Provincial Finance Commission.

IX. LIBRARIES AND THE POOR WHITE

In opening a discussion on "The urgent need for a rural library service in the light of the Carnegie Poor White Report" Mr. Charles Christie said—

The Poor White problem is a great deal more than merely a Poor White problem. It is a problem which goes to the roots of European settlement and civilization in South Africa. If we cannot succeed in raising the poor white, nothing is more certain than that the poor white will drag us down. This series of invaluable reports provides what has been wanted for years, to wit, the facts. My reference here is "the urgent need for a rural library service in the light of these reports". What then do they say? Firstly, it is a little surprising that, though there are implications here and there, the necessity for a rural library service is not stressed more heavily in the Joint Findings and Recommendations of the Commission. They do say, however, in the Joint Findings and Recommendations, Paragraph 36, page xiii: "In order to counteract the evils of social isolation it is necessary that country schools and especially farm schools should be provided with far more reading matter of a suitable kind, and that a taste for reading should be fostered which would continue to form an important educative influence in later life."

Professor Wilcocks has a reference on page 174 of his remarkable volume, "The Poor White", where he says: "They must be taught to read more easily and be encouraged to develop the habit of reading." That is disappointingly meagre.

Dr. Grosskopf, in his study of "Rural Impoverishment and Rural Exodus", abounding in the fruits of careful observation and inquiry, has no remarks at all on the subject. But it must not be forgotten that these observers were dealing for the most part with people sunk in poverty, and suffering from the evils of malnutrition and, often, malaria. However strong may be one's belief in the humanising effects of libraries, it will be agreed that books are of no use to hungry men, and these observers may well have thought that problems of social and physical rehabilitation should come first. It may be also that they felt that the question had best be left to Dr. Malherbe to deal with in the last published volume of the

series : "Education and the Poor White." This weighty and notable volume contains some very valuable information on the subject of reading and libraries and the contribution they may make to poor white welfare and rehabilitation. May I comment on four of these as I go along. "Our people", says Dr. Malherbe, "are not a reading people." No people are reading people, not by the light of nature, and certainly no people are or will become reading people if you give them nothing to read. When they have the books to read, you listen to what Dr. Malherbe says, on page 33 : "It is astounding to note the rapid improvement that has come about recently in the reading habits of the rising generation in the rural areas, ever since the advent of suitable reading matter in Afrikaans. The complaint is that the Afrikaans books of many of the better school libraries are literally devoured — read to pieces by the children..."

The argument which Dr. Malherbe develops, that the unbroken sunshine and the "call of the great out-of-doors" discourage the habit of reading, would be very convincing did we not know that California, with much the same climate, has been one of the great library states of the American Union.

The second extract from Dr. Malherbe is on page 349 : "The comparatively favourable position of the Cape Province is due to the forward-looking policy of Sir Thomas Muir, who in 1892 made a start with school libraries and in 1914 had founded more than 2,000 of them all over the Cape Province. Many of the schools, however, which I visited on this survey had libraries only in name, because the only books I saw there were dusty relics from Dr. Muir's time which no child in the school ever read. Besides they were mostly English books. Still, the tradition he created was a good one as is shown by the fact that the Cape also has the fewest number of schools without Afrikaans books." No comment seems called for but Sir Thomas Muir, you will agree, deserves a statue, because he founded 2,000 libraries in the schools of the Cape Province.

The third extract occurs on page 350 and speaks for itself : "It is a significant as well as distressing fact that more than half of all the schools in the Union do not see a newspaper or periodical. These are representative schools as selected by the inspectors. And as the figures show it is in the poor area and in the rural community, where books and periodicals are most needed, that there is such a dearth of reading matter."

I am sure you will appreciate Dr. Malherbe's reference to the admirable work *Die Huisgenoot* is doing. "*Die Huisgenoot* has next to Langenhoven probably been the most potent in getting the Afrikaans children to read." He also says : *Die Huisgenoot* is worth at least three books

in the statistics compiled." I am sure we join heartily in these acknowledgments to *Die Huisgenoot*.

Then there is a little passage (p. 353) which reads: "The average number of Afrikaans books read per child is 2.6 — 80.4 per cent of the Transvaal country school children could not remember reading a single English book in their lives beyond their school textbooks. 11.6 per cent had read one book and so on." This is the Transvaal, the wealthiest province in the Union. I sometimes think that, if our politicians took the view that ignorance is bliss, that it is their best asset, that it suits their purpose to keep people ignorant, they would not behave other than they do. But the politicians do not take that view. Obviously they would not spend three millions a year on education if they did. On the other hand, there are the facts. When their expensively educated product completes his formal education at school, he is turned loose on the veld. If the child says, in effect: "I have been taught to read, but I can't get the books", they say, in effect, "What has that got to do with us? We have educated you. Do with your education what you jolly well like." When Mr. Hofmeyr was Administrator of the Transvaal, he set up a Committee, under the chairmanship of the Director of Education, which went into this question carefully. The Committee sponsored a scheme whereby the Germiston Public Library, then under Mr. Stirling, would arrange the distribution of books through numerous centres in the Transvaal. This scheme involved the contribution by the Provincial Administration of some £180 per annum — not per month, per annum — and it worked admirably. Books were provided for the adults and the children of the *platteland*, enabling the latter to profit by the education the Administration had given them. There were great possibilities in this scheme. In time it would have covered the whole country with a network of rural libraries. The cost was extremely low. The Germiston Library met a large proportion of it. The distribution was done for the most part through school principals who were only too glad of the opportunity. Afrikaans literature was supplied in quantity. Skilled assistance was available for the selection and purchase of the books. Suitable boxes were made. Transport was arranged and the organization made steady progress almost month by month. When the depression came, the grant from the Transvaal Provincial Administration ceased. It has not been renewed. Every effort has been made to represent the facts to the Administration. Their principal officers are fully aware of it. The reports of Mr. Hofmeyr's Committee are on their files. Whether the Administration does not wholly approve of the auspices under which the scheme is conducted, I do not know. The depression provided some sort

of reason for withdrawing the grant, but not for refusing to renew it when other times they have seen fit to include it in their Budget are considered. The reluctance of the Administration to support the scheme is incomprehensible but has not, luckily, meant failure. Germiston, [successively under Miss Riley and Mr. Borland], is most gallantly carrying on. The scale of distribution has had to be reduced. With a small grant from one of the Carnegie organizations, but largely at its own charges, Germiston has kept the scheme going and it is not dead yet by a long way, but I put it to you—What is the good of Commissions and Committees, urging the provision of library facilities with an Administration like that of the Transvaal who know the facts from A to Z, but will do nothing to support such an organization, brought into being by the courage and generosity and the public spirit of Germiston?

Nevertheless I conclude with this motion, Mr. Chairman: "I move that this Conference urges upon Provincial Administrations, in view of the results of the investigation of the Carnegie Commission on the question of the Poor White, and particularly in view of the conclusions set out by Dr. E. G. Malherbe in his report on "Education and the Poor White", that a careful reconsideration of the position in regard to rural library service and school libraries is urgently necessary with a view to their fuller support and extension."

At the close of the discussion Mr. Christie's motion was put to the meeting and adopted with the following addition:—

"that this Conference learns with gratification that it has been possible for the Executive Committee of the 1928 Conference to extend a measure of assistance to the Germiston (Carnegie) Public Library in their efforts to maintain the Rural Library service in the Transvaal."

X. CO-OPERATION IN PURCHASE OF PERIODICALS

In moving "that the larger libraries, together with the universities co-operate in the purchase of scientific and learned periodical publications" Mr. Percy Freer said—

"Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen: I do not think I shall keep you many moments. The circumstances dictating this motion are briefly these:— In spite of all efforts at inter-library loaning, we still find ourselves with certain titles that cannot be supplied anywhere in the Union. I am confining myself to scientific and technical periodicals. A few other factors are the increase in the costs of German periodicals, which have

gone up by at least 40% to 50% since South Africa went off the gold standard; and also the huge distance between ourselves and America, where we might have to wait weeks before getting a reply.

We should, therefore, try to undertake some scheme of co-operative purchase. If I read a few titles of the journals I have tried to get and failed, you will realize the position. During the last eighteen months we have had requests for :— Archiv für Elektrochemie ; American Institute of metals : Transactions ; Entomological society of Washington : Proceedings ; Journal für praktische Chemie ; Monatshefte für Chemie ; Natuurwetenschappelijk tijdschrift ; and the New York Entomological society : Journal ; and to the best of my knowledge they are not available in any library in South Africa, and this is a serious handicap to research. We now have three of them on order, but there is no money for the remaining four. Perhaps Pretoria, Cape Town, Stellenbosch, Bloemfontein and Grahams-town would agree to cover some scientific field and come to an agreement."

The motion was carried with the addition "that all libraries which are members of the Association be invited to submit to the Secretary lists of all journals in their Libraries and to send deletions therefrom and additions thereto annually."

XI. INDEXING PERIODICALS

Miss E. Hartmann moved "that a Committee be appointed to take up the question of indexing South African serials not elsewhere dealt with, that such Committee enlist the services of volunteers, each to deal with one periodical or more currently and retrospectively as time permits ; and that an honorary editor be appointed to receive and file entries for consultation at a central information bureau for the purpose."

[Printed elsewhere in this number.]

The motion was adopted and referred to the Administrative Council for further action.

XII. TRAINING OF LIBRARIANS

Principal Raikes opened the discussion on the Training of Librarians and said :—

"Mr. President, I want to be as brief as possible. I hope everybody has already perused this Provisional Scheme of Examination for the Certificates and Diploma of the Association.

In general, I think that the Conference will agree with the provisions of the scheme, but there are two or three particular points I would like

to bring to your attention in connection with it, and I hope that anybody who has any suggestions to make for the betterment of the scheme will make these suggestions but will not attempt to bring about verbal alterations or amendments to the scheme as it now stands. If people will make suggestions, then the Committee which has drafted the scheme under authority of the Council, will consider these suggestions and will, if at all desirable, put them in the scheme. The object should be suggestions as to how the scheme can be bettered, and then the committee will go into it.

The first point is the question of fees. The Association has no funds and I presume you have to pay the examiners for doing the work, and although the expenses would not be large, you have to buy paper and ink. Running these examination schemes will not be a serious matter of expense, but these expenses have to be met and therefore there must, in my opinion, be fees for entrance to the examination. People may think that the scale of fees given here is exorbitant and the Committee would be perfectly willing to reduce these fees, but I do not think you can hope to do it with no fee at all. The examination must also be run on a small profit. If you set your fees too low now, and you have to raise them afterwards, you will have a great deal of trouble. It is better to start them at a moderate scale and you can always reduce them later on.

The next point I wish to bring up is this. This scheme as it stands now is a compromise on the part of the Committee and I do not agree with it, because it is strictly unilingual. I maintain very strongly, that assistants should have a real good working knowledge of the literature of both languages. I feel it is absolutely wrong that they should be either English or Afrikaans. At the same time, I have heard it stated that it is not the business of this Association to ensure that assistants are bilingual but that it is open to the Committee appointing the staff to make sure of that point. The point I want to make here is that ordinary library committees do not know the degree of bilingualism of their staff. We are told a man is bilingual because he took both subjects for matriculation. To my mind that would be useless on a library staff. It would presumably enable the assistant to converse with the clients of the library in both languages, but it would not give them sufficient knowledge to in any way direct the reading of the public in the two languages.

We now come to another point. You will find in Professor Arndt's motion that the diploma should be equally balanced between the two languages. Now, with that I do not agree either because I maintain that you want to have your English specialist and your Afrikaans and Nederlands specialists and that would be our principal job, but I also want to ensure that the assist-

ants can deal in a moderately successful degree with the language that is not their special language, and therefore I suggest the amendment, which I have also circulated. The candidate who has taken the English group should also do a paper in Afrikaans and Nederlands Literary History of the standard of the second year University examination. If you make both languages equal you will not be able to insist on candidates getting up to that degree which is represented by the third year of the University degree. They should get up to the third year in the main subject, and in the other language group they should get up to the second year, so that they can have a working language knowledge. In a big library where you have several assistants, you should obviously have some English and some Afrikaans and Nederlands Assistants, but in a small library where there is only one assistant, the committee will obviously appoint one English or one Afrikaans assistant according to the neighbourhood of the library, but that assistant must have a working knowledge of both languages. We should insist on this degree of bilingualism, that nobody should receive the Diploma of the Association unless he has reached the standard in one language group of the University degree standard and in the other language group of the second year standard. There are some who major in the two languages and they would have the qualifications on a higher level.

Another point is, if this Association insists on bilingualism for this Diploma, what are we going to do with candidates from Rhodesia. It is the South African Association, and it should deal principally with the Union but we should not rule out candidates from Rhodesia and I have, therefore, in my amendment included the case for those working in libraries outside the Union. There let them take French or German. In the same way in South West Africa which is not part of the Union, at any rate not at present, candidates should be allowed to take German.

Those I think are the main points which I wished to stress and that I would like to hear discussed.

I would like to move that the provisional scheme of examination for the Certificates and Diploma of the Association and syllabus, submitted by the Committee, be approved in principle.

A lengthy discussion followed and the draft scheme of Examination prepared by the Education Sub-Committee for consideration of the Administrative Council was informally approved of in principle.

XIII. GENERAL

The meeting closed with votes of thanks to the President, to Principal Raikes and the University Authorities and to the Press.

'n KORT INLEIDING TOT BIBLIOGRAFIESE WETENSKAP

deur G. V. MARAIS, M. A., B. Sc. (Columbia), F. S. A. L. A.,

Bibliotekaris, Universiteit van Stellenbosch.

Onder die talryke skare van woorde wat ons aan die klassieke tale ontleen het, is daar ook die een wat uitdrukking gee aan die praktiese en fascinerende hulpwetenskap van biblioteekwese: die bibliografie. Die woord is interessant, van 'n histories-etimologiese oogpunt beskou, daar hy van tyd tot tyd sy betekenis verander het. Sy heel eerste beduiding, wat hy behou het tot die na-klassieke tydperk van Diogenes Laertius, is maklik af te lei van die twee Griekse wortels: *biblio* = 'n boek, —en *graphein* = om te skryf. M. a. w: om 'n boek te skryf. In die agtiende eeu N.C. vind ons dat hy 'n verder betekenis gekry het, nl. *boekkunde* en *boekvorsing*, wat insluit biblioteekwese, bibliofilie, palaeografie, ens. Sy nuutste metamorfose gee hom die betekenis van boeklyste, normaal van *gedrukte boeke*.

Daar is egter 'n merkbare onderskeid tussen 'n bibliografie en 'n katalogus (want laasgenoemde is ook 'n lys van boeke) in die volgende opsigte: 'n bibliografie is in die eerste instansie 'n meer teoretiese iets omdat hy probeer aangee (met beperkings van taal, land en onderwerp deur die samesteller self vasgestel) alle werke wat oor 'n seker onderwerp verkrygbaar is; die katalogus is van 'n meer plaaslike aard en dui gewoonlik aan watter werke in 'n bepaalde biblioteek verkrygbaar is oor 'n bepaalde onderwerp.

Hierdie onderskeid bring 'n sekondêre verskil in klassifikasie mee, omdat 'n katalogus van 'n plaaslike inrigting gewoonlik gepaard gaan met 'n uitgewerkte skema van notasie van boeke wat oor onderdele van die onderwerp handel, en wat die juiste posisie van die boeke op die rakke aandui vir gemak van die lesers. Aan die samesteller van 'n bibliografie word 'n ruim keuse gelaat om onderdele te noem wat hy wil sonder dat hy die blywende aard van 'n konkrete versameling boeke in aanmerking hoef te neem. Verder neem bibliografie as wetenskap soms ook in aanmerking die fisiese hoedanighede van boeke wat gelei het tot hulle voortbring.

Sulke bibliografieë, of boeklyste, kan tot hulle doel hê die samestel van *wêreldlyste* van boeke in enige taal, van enige land, en onderwerp, om daardeur alle bereikbare materiaal aan die navorser op enige gebied bekend te maak, en word dan genoem *universele* of *alomvattende bibliografieë*. Tweedens

kan hulle wees lyste van alle boeke gepubliseer in 'n seker land en oor 'n bepaalde tydperk en ons kan hulle noem die primêr-nasionale bibliografieë. Hierop kan enige ander spesiale lyste gebaseer word, wat ons kan noem *sekondêre of afgeleide bibliografieë*.

Lyste van eersgenoemde soort is die *Cumulative book index* van die V. S. A., die *English catalogue of books* van Engeland, en, om nader tuis te kom, die periodieke lyste van boeke uitgegee in Suid-Afrika, saamgestel deur die firma Van Schaik van Pretoria.

Sekondêre bibliografieë kan gaan oor beperkte onderwerpe, en oorskry die eng nasionale grense deur die opbrings van verskillende land verteenwoordiging in die lys te gee, soos b.v. die *Bibliography of the historical sciences*. Hulle kan ook kleiner in omvang wees, en slegs lyste aangee van (a) werke deur een persoon geskryf, met inagneming van die verskillende edisies van sy werke of versamelinge daarvan; (b) lewensbeskrywinge van die persoon; (c) kritiek oor sy werke. 'n Kombinasie van die drie soorte sou heet 'n "bibliografie".

'n Navorsers met voldoende tyd tot sy beskikking sou waarskynlik uitgaan van die "bibliografie van bibliografieë," wat beteken 'n lys wat aangee watter lyste van boeke in die wêreld bestaan, hetsy afgerond of lopend.

Dit blyk reeds uit die voorgaande dat die wetenskap waaroor ons skryf bestaan om navorsers se kennis van bestaande materiaal oor hulle vak te vergroot, en sodoende onnodige duplikasie van werk te verhoed. B. v. 'n student in Witwatersrand wat graag wil werk oor die geskiedenis van die goud-nywerheid in Suid-Afrika sou eers alle beskikbare bibliografieë nagaan om te sien of daar reeds gedrukte stof oor die onderwerp bestaan, en ook nie nalaat om uit te vind of dit miskien in ongedrukte vorm bestaan nie. Laasgenoemde sou hy kan uitvind deur middel van bibliografieë van dissertasies aangeneem deur die verskillende universiteite in Suid-Afrika, indien daar sulke bibliografieë beskikbaar is. Het hy hierdie inligting en blyk dit daaruit dat die besondere onderwerp reeds uitgeput is, dan kies hy liewers 'n ander, of hy vul aan. Die doel van bibliografieë is dus om 'n verslag te maak van bestaande stof.

'n Mens sou dink dat alle boeke reeds opgeteken is, maar dis nie die geval nie. Slegs 'n eeu gelede het die bibliograaf, Ludwig Hain, 16,000 wiegdrukke (incunabula), d. w. s. boeke voor die end van die 15de eeu gedruk, vir die eerste keer opgeteken. En sedert 1925 is die Duitse regering besig met die uitgawe in alfabetiese volgorde van die sogenaamde *Gesamtkatalog der Wiegendrucke* (Union catalogue of incunabula), wat probeer om alle bestaande wiegdrukke in die wêreld aan te gee. Hierdeur sal ongetwyfeld nog 'n hele aantal totnogtoe onbekende werke aan die lig kom. Dit is vandag bekend dat

die totaal bestaande werke van hierdie aard meer as twee keer soveel is as die deur Hain aangeteken.

In die lyste van antiquariate word sommige baie skaars werke vermeld as "nie opgeteken nie", en selfs wanneer 'n boek opgeteken is dan is die optekening dikwels onakkuraat en onvoldoende as noukeurige beskrywing van boeke, by gebreke aan hulle fisiese aanwesigheid. Veral in die geval van die ouer skrywers, waar twyfel omtrent outeurskap en datum van uitgawe bestaan, soos, b.v. Shakespeare, oor wie se identiteit die eeuelange polemiëk reeds boeke met titels soos die volgende laat ontstaan het: "What is Shakespeare?", "Bacon is Shakespeare", e. d. m. word dit nodig om bibliografiese ondersoek in te stel van die aard wat verder in die artikel beskryf word.

Dis moeilik om 'n opgaaf te maak van die totaal uitgawes van boeke wat nog bestaan. Iarnski het die getal in 1911 geskat op tenminste 25,000,000; los blaadjies en vlugskriffies is ontelbaar. Dink slegs aan die lyste van landboumateriaal in die *Experiment Station record*. Om 'n duidliker idee te kry van die immer vermenigvuldigende Niagaras van gedrukte materiaal wat daeliks uit die muile van die wêreld se drukperse vloei, kan 'n mens onthou dat daar 'n enorme hoeveelheid artikels in tydskrifte verskyn en die word gewoonlik nie in bibliografieë aangegee nie, behalwe baie skraps en onvolledig, in die *Bulletin international de bibliographie*, en in die nuutste bibliografiese sleutel, die s. g. "tydskrif-registers" oor verskillende gebiede. Dit is wel verbygaande materiaal, maar vir die wetenskaplikes op wie se terrein feitlik alle nuwe en belangrike uitslae van navorsing eers in tydskrifte, verhandelinge en memoirs van verenigings verskyn, en slegs as boeke gereproduceer word wanneer die geleerdes op die drempel van nuwer ontdekkings staan, kan 'n lys van boeke alleen nie voldoende wees nie. Vergelyk ook op die gebied van literatuur *per se* die korter voortbringsels van skrywers wat eers in letterkundige tydskrifte verskyn (veral wanneer hulle nog 'n reputasie moet opbou) en eers later, indien dit die moeite werd blyk, versamel en in boekformaat uitgegee word. In ons eie land is voorbeelde daarvan: Langenhoven (*Aan stille waters*), Brand (*Die swarthand*), Du Plessis (*Die springbok*), Jonker (*Die plaasverdeling*) wat eers van week tot week in *Die Huisgenoot* as voortgesette verhale verskyn het, en later as boeke uitgegee is. In hierdie labirint van gedrukte materiaal (om nie te praat van nuusblaaië nie) sou die student sy spoor byster raak sonder behulp van bibliografieë.

Bibliografie het nie slegs te doen met 'n samestelling van titels nie, want dikwels, soos reeds terloops opgemerk, is daar tekens in die fisiese bou van 'n boek, soos b. v. die soort papier wat gebruik is, sy watermerke en drukkersornamente, stof van die band, (in die ou tyd byna uitsluitend varkleer), en

tipe van drukletter, wat in belang van letterkundige studie ondersoek moet word.

Bibliografiese metode kan in twee groepe verdeel word: (a) analities en (b) sistematies. In enige soort wetenskaplike werk gaan 'n ondersoek van die *specimen* die klassifikasie daarvan vooruit. Op dieselfde manier moet boeke individueel ondersoek en beskryf word voordat ons sistematiese lysie van sulke boeke kan saamstel. Die bibliograaf moet homself afvra (1) watter werk of werke bevat is in die boek voor hom; (2) watter uitgawe van die werk dit is (1ste, 2de, 3de, ens.); (3) of dit 'n volmaakte eksemplaar is (of dit al sy bladsye, plate, kaarte, ens. besit). 'n Katalogus beantwoord ook hierdie vrae, maar die verskil tussen die twee is dat die bibliografie 'n grondiger ondersoek maak en 'n beskrywing gee wat in dieper besonderhede tree. Dit klink eenvoudig om hierdie besonderhede te verskaf, maar soms is groot ondervinding en navorsing nodig om die outeurskap, rang van uitgawe, plek en datum van druk, en volmaaktheid van 'n eksemplaar vas te stel, wanneer hierdie informasie nie op die titelblad verskyn nie. Soos reeds aangetoon, vereis hierdie taak soms 'n diepgaande kennis van die verskillende tegniese metodes van die opstel van boeke, b.v. lettertipe, ens. om te kan bewys dat die boek tot 'n bepaalde periode of skrywer behoort. Vgl. die s. g. *kursiewe* skrif, eers uitgevind deur die drukker van Venesië, Aldus. Die karakteristieke lettertipe van Aldus maak werke van daardie tydperk daadlik herkenbaar. Hierdie vergelykende metode van behandeling het 'n jong bibliograaf, Robert Proctor (1868—1903) tot groot sukses gelei. Hy het daarin geslaag om 8,000 wiegdrucke van die Britse Museum, waarin die meeste geen spoor van hierdie besonderhede op die titelblad gewys het nê, onder lande van uitgawe, stede en drukperse, en in kronologiese volgorde te rangskik.

Kennis van die *lapsus typographiorum* het Caxton se roem as eerste drukker in Engeland van ondergang gered. Sy eerste boek, uit die Westminster Press, is die *Dictes or sayengis of the philosophers*, gedateer 1477. Maar Theodor Rood se eerste boek uit die Oxford Press, die *Expositio S. Hieronymi in symbolum apostolicum* is gedateer 1468, en dit lyk dus of hy die eerste drukker is. Hierdie idee is ook vroeër aangeneem as juis. Die biologiese metode van ondersoek bewys egter nie alleen dat daar in die periode 1468—1479 uit Rood se drukpers geen boeke uitgegee is nie, maar dat boeke deur hom in 1479 gepubliseer dieselfde stadium van tipografiese ontwikkeling aantoon. Geen drukker het egter vir elf jaar op dieselfde plek in hierdie kuns bly staan nie, veral omdat hy toe in sy pionierstadium was, en besig om vinnig vordering te maak. Met hierdie oorwegings inaggeneem is die enigste uitleg dat 'n 'X' waarskynlik per abuis deur die drukkersduiuel uit die *colophon* weggelaat is,

en MCCCCLXVIII in werklikheid moes wees MCCCCLXXVIII, dus 1478 i. p. v. 1468. Van hierdie soort drukfoute bestaan baie ander voorbeelde in die ouer werke wat hierdie mening byna buite twyfel stel.

In later eeue bestaan nie meer soveel gevaar vir onbekende boeke nie' maar tog is daar baie in geheim gedrukte werke, wat om die een of ander rede vervalste datums opgee, en dis almal probleme vir later navorsers om op te los.

Die vasstelling van die verskillende edisies van 'n outeur se werke is belangrik, want slegs deur 'n sistematiese opgawe daarvan is kronologiese volgorde moontlik. Die volgorde is uiters wenslik want dikwels word in later uitgawes van dieselfde werk veranderinge in die inhoud aangebring, wat nie in die vorige uitgawes was nie (vgl. veral wetenskaplike werke waar nuwe informasie bykom en drukfoute herstel word). Die eerste edisies is belangrik omdat hulle so na moontlik die gedagtes van die outeur weergee, direk op sy eie manuskrip. Vir dié rede is daar soveel verskillende uitgawes van klassieke skrywers se werke deur aparte vertolkers van die manuskripte, omdat nie altyd vasgestel is watter een van vele *kodekse* die regte een is nie, veral waar soms weglatings gemaak is deur fout van die oorskrywers of drukkers, deur vergaan van deel van die manuskrip, of onduidelike handskrif; of waar byvoeging gemaak is deur ander persone, of verkeerde passate ingelas deur die redigeerder. In hierdie gevalle is dit nodig om dele van die werk te vergelyk met die algemene inhoud en met ander tipiese werk van die skrywer en sodoende so na moontlik te kom aan die skrywer se oorspronklike gedagte.

Is hierdie deel van sy taak afgehandel en akkurate informasie omtrent die waaragtigheid van 'n werk se datum, skrywer, ens. vasgestel, dan kom daar vir die bibliograaf die kunstige aanwending van sy informasie vir praktiese doeleindes. Hetsy die lys kort en eenvoudig of lank en ingewikkeld is, vir wetenskaplike doeleindes moet alle boeke wat reeds ondersoek is gesistematiseer word, en in 'n logiese en nuttige volgorde ingeskryf word. Die eenvoudigste lyste van hierdie aard tref 'n mens gewoonlik aan as handleiding tot verder studie aan die end van 'n boek, of selfs aan die end van enkele hoofstukke. Die grootste bibliografiese onderneming, wat probeer aantoon, nie slegs *wat* te kry is oor enige onderwerp nie maar ook *waar* dit te kry is, word gemaak deur die Institut International de Documentation (vroëer: Institut International de Bibliographie) wat sy hoofkwartiere in Brussel het, waar so 'n bibliografie op kaarte gehou word en aan wie vrae omtrent materiaal oor hulle onderwerp gerig kan word. Die Institut is onder leiding van die bekwame paar, Paul Otlet en Henri Lafontaine.

Vir die bibliograaf op kleiner skaal sal dit slegs nodig en moontlik wees om sekondêre (onderwerps-) bibliografieë saam te stel deur te put uit be-

staande hulpmiddels soos die groot primêr-nasionale bibliografieë en ander. Die stelsel van rangskikking wat hy gebruik sal afhang van sy doel, persoonlike belange, of tipe van onderwerp wat behandel word. Dis egter goed dat hy sou bekend wees met 'n paar van die groot stelsels van klassifikasie wat taamlik algemeen gebruik word in biblioteke, b. v. die Library of Congress klassifikasie, en die Dewey Decimal.

Verder informasie oor die onderwerp van hierdie artikel, waarvan slegs 'n paar interessante punte aangeroe is, kan verkry word uit die volgende boeke :—

BLISS, H. E. The organization of knowledge in libraries and the subject-approach to books; 2nd ed. N. Y: Wilson, 1933. \$4.

ESDAILE, A. A student's manual of bibliography; 2nd ed. London: Allen & Unwin, 1932. 12/6 (10/6 aan lede van die Britse Biblioteek-Vereniging).

MILKAU, Fritz, *Herausgeber*. Handbuch der Bibliothekswissenschaft. Erster Band: Schrift und Buch. Leipzig: Harrassowitz, 1931. £4.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL NOTES

Architecture in South Africa, Vol. I, compiled by Mrs. L. Cumming-George. Wynberg, C.P.—Specialty Press, 1933. 10/6.

This well-produced work presents a series of descriptive articles on a large variety of buildings, business and domestic, recently erected in South Africa, and copiously illustrated from photographs. The names of the architects and contractors are given in most cases. The work is an interesting one alike to the layman and to architect and master-builder, for whom especially it should form an indispensable addition to the reference shelf. Some authoritative articles on Air-conditioning, Floorings and Electricity in the home are appended.

A second volume is in course of preparation for publication later in the year, and, incidentally will illustrate Johannesburg's new libraries.

The Blind. "Talking Books For The Blind."

The library of the United States Congress is to release the first "talking book" for the blind next month. It is described by Mr. Robert B. Irwin, director of the American Foundation for the Blind, as "the most sweeping invention on behalf of blind people since the introduction of Braille a hundred years ago."

"They hope," he added, "that the invention will ultimately free thousands of sightless from the touch method of reading and enable them to read through the air."

The "talking book" is a combination of electrical gramophone and wireless set. It is so compact that it may be carried in a suitcase. Records of the books to be "played" on the set will be lent free of charge by the Foundation to blind people in possession of the apparatus. It is hoped to have a large number of such records available by June. "Talking Book" libraries are to be established throughout the country. The Foundation is launching a campaign to raise £30,000 for the production of 50,000 machines. The invention is expected to prove of special value to people who become blind too late in life readily to master the touch method of reading, of which Mr. Irwin estimates there are some 80,000 in the United States. (*The Star*, 2. 5. 34.).

Boers and Kruger. Dr. W. Babinski, the Polish Minister at The Hague, has recently handed to the Union Minister, Dr. H. D. van Broekhuizen, a book written in Polish by Z. Slupski in 1900 and entitled "Boers and Kruger." The Union Minister will forward this book to the War Museum collection in Bloemfontein. (*The Observer*).

Fairbairn. Mr. K. B. Fairbairn, *Popular Official and Sportsman*.

Capetown—The death occurred at Wynberg last night after a long illness of Mr. Kenneth Bruce Fairbairn, born in 1877, who was for many years a member of the Rhodesia civil service, and who was a popular member of an old and distinguished Cape family.

He was the brother of the late Mr. John Fairbairn, formerly Clerk of the Senate, and a grandson of Mr. John Fairbairn, the famous journalist, known as the Father of the South African Press. (*The Star*, 8. 3. 34.).

A Greek Newspaper—Johannesburg.

Mr A. Capsopulos, publisher and editor of the local Greek newspaper *Africanis*, on Sunday celebrated the dedication of his new printing works erected at Primrose.

Mr. Capsopulos spoke of the high duties of the Greek and other foreign newspapers published in South Africa. (*The Star*, 20. 3. 34.).

Transkeian History.—*Jenkins Papers*.

Dr. C. J. UYS, M. A., author of "In the Era of Shepstone," recently published, which has had a most favourable reception, has just presented an interesting book in typescript to the University of Stellenbosch—It is entitled "The Rev. Thomas Jenkins's Private Papers and Diary. (1838—1880)."

The volume comprises mainly correspondence between the Rev. Wm. Shaw, superintendent of the Wesleyan Mission in South Africa, and Thomas Jenkins—known to the natives by the name "Marawanya"—a man of balanced judgement and keen piety, who occupied for many years a dual position in Pondoland.

The volume also contains confidential letters of a diplomatic nature. These shed a flood of new light on some of the political manoeuvres of the day. In these letters (writes Dr. Uys in a preface to the book) "the key to the annexation of Basutoland is found. They reveal the secret ambition of a coterie of Natal officials and the equivocal methods adopted by them to augment their district at the expense of Pondo territory."

An interesting history attaches to the original letters. They were left by the late Mrs. T. Jenkins to her son-in-law, a trader in Pondoland, whose shop was burnt down, but the documents were miraculously saved. The trader, apparently more interested in shop journals and ledgers than in his family papers, left these historic documents in the ruins of his shop, where they were found scattered and picked up by the late Rev. J. W. Househam, who was then a missionary at Umfundisweni, in Pondoland.

After they had been copied by Dr. Uys, Mrs. Househam disposed of the original papers which went to the library of a famous collector of Africana [Dr. Gubbins].

Zulu Novel Writers.

The only prizes ever offered for novels in the Zulu language have just been awarded. No first prize (£20) was awarded; but B. Wallet Vilakazi received the second prize of £10, while consolation prizes went to three other Zulu competitors—C. C. M. Matiwané, G. C. S. Mdhladhla and A. H. S. Mbata.

The best manuscript is called "Noma Nimi." Matiwané's work, curiously enough, has no title at all, while that of Mbata is styled "Umxoxi."

Mr. J. Stuart, a leading expert on the Zulu language, acted as adviser to the Institute's special committee, of which Professor D. Westermann, who recently visited the Rand, was chairman.

Although it is acknowledged that the books were not the last word in excellence, it was felt that "authors should not be discouraged unduly." Great interest was exhibited in all parts of South Africa, and teachers as well as missionaries took pains to bring the competition to the notice of their more educated charges.

Publication will not, however, be undertaken by the organisers of the competition, who hope that Governments or church and educational authorities will give help to the successful writers.

Fiction, descriptions of native life, stories from native history, biography, translations from other languages, and grammar books, were submitted. The organisers, in the light of previous experience, issued a special warning against "monotonous or tedious" style. Native authors were also cautioned to avoid what has been submitted by blacks from other parts of Africa, volumes "containing too many kinds of things," and "confused jumbles of every possible kind of stories," as also folklore which possesses ethnological but not literary value.

Competitions will be held for books in other South African native languages.

A Taste for Reading

(*Sunday Times*, 10. 12. 33)

"If I were to pray," wrote Herschel, "for a taste which would stand me in stead under every variety of circumstance, and be a source of happiness and cheerfulness to me through life, and a shield against its ills, however things might go amiss, and the world frown upon me, it would be a taste for reading."

LIBRARY NOTES AND NEWS

Durban.—*Children's Library.*—During the last week in January an interesting exhibition of children's books was displayed in the Library. Books were selected to form a graphic representation, firstly of the books most cherished by the young readers; secondly of the excellence of many modern children's books as regards attractive and serviceable bindings, clear type and attractive illustrations; and thirdly, the wide range of non-fiction books for children. Among the first were prominent: Louisa Alcott, R. H. Ballantyne, Jules Verne, George Macdonald, Percy F. Westerman, Captain Gilson, Lieut. Col. Brereton, Angela Brazil, Jeanette Oxenham, Bessie Marchant, E. E. Cowper. Non-fiction covered a variety of topics ranging from toymaking to the construction of wireless sets and the joys of camping out; from biology to architecture and aviation.

Jagger Bequest.—Under the will of the Hon. J. W. Jagger a sum of £20,000 was set aside, the interest on which was to be devoted to the purchase of English books and publications suitable for school libraries. In 1933, 212 schools in the Cape Province received grants of £7 each. In 1934 similar provision will be made for schools in the Transvaal.

Johannesburg.—*Non-European Libraries.*

The General Purposes Committee proposes that a grant-in-aid of £25 per annum be made for each of the libraries established by the Carnegie Non-European Library Committee in the Council's four native townships. The Carnegie Non-European Library Committee is composed of members of the Education Department and representative missionaries and others under the chairmanship of Mr. Stirling, the State Librarian. It administers a fund created by the Carnegie Foundation which amounted originally to £1,000 but which is becoming rapidly exhausted because of the provision of books and travelling boxes, and the starting of some 40 branches throughout the province.

At each of the Council's four townships voluntary librarians are issuing books to scores of readers, the Western Native Township alone having over 50 active subscribers who are making use of the books provided.

In the other centres the librarians report a substantial group of readers and a slow but gratifying increase in numbers. In addition to these centres in the townships, branches have been established in various places in the town, such as the native schools, the Bantu Men's Social Centre, the Native Nurses' Association, etc. In these places as well the books are being used widely and are much appreciated. The facilities which are being provided for natives are meeting a very real need. (*The Star*, 23. 4. 34.)

Johannesburg.—*Public Library.* "After the purchase of the Gubbins Museum Collection by the Johannesburg City Council, The Library Committee appointed Mr. W. R. Morrison as City Antiquarian for 6 months from March 1st, 1934, to check the inventory and to compile a catalogue." (*The Star*, 22. 1. 34.)

Johannesburg.—*University of the Witwatersrand.* The new Library Block was officially opened by H. R. H. Prince George on 12th March. From that date till after Easter an Exhibition of Africana, comprising early and interesting books, including many illustrated volumes, documents, MSS., prints, coins and medals was open to the Public. A descriptive article of the building appeared in *SOUTH AFRICAN LIBRARIES*, No. 3.

Krugersdorp.—*Public Library.* Ratepayers and resident employees are now entitled to borrow upon payment of a deposit but without further charge, any book with the exception of fiction less than twelve months old. For the latter a subscription is still payable. Country members, on payment of 10/- are entitled to one book, and of 20/- to three books, the postage on the books being paid by the depositor. (*The Star*, 26. 2. 34)

Pietermaritzburg.—*Children's Library.* Mr. S. W. Pape, M. A., Headmaster of Maritzburg College, writes in the "*Natal Witness*" of 9th March, 1934 :

There are in Pietermaritzburg, maintained by private enterprise, several institutions which in other centres are usually run by the Municipality or corporation.
Children and the Library.

A comparatively recent development at the library is the Children's Section. It is frequently urged as a reproach to the rising generation of South Africa that they do not read enough and various reasons, usually climatic, are adduced to account for this. But lack of opportunity must certainly be regarded as one main reason and it is the object of the Children's Section to do away with this latter reproach. Living as we do in a beautiful but remote and small corner of the great world, it is of great importance that the outlook of our boys and girls should be broadened by reading, since to the vast majority this cannot come about by actual travel.

The Children's Section of the library is well stocked with books of varied appeal for young people up to the age of 18 and in order to bring this valuable collection of books within the reach of all, the council of the Natal Society has decided to allow anyone up to the age of 18 to belong to this section for the sum of 5/- per annum. Further to encourage young people and train them to become full and permanent members of the Society later on, it is now possible for those between the ages of 18 and 20 to become junior members of the library for an annual subscription of 7/6d. Such junior members may borrow not only from all parts of the Children's Section, but from all parts of the main lending library.

The Club Subscriptions for Juveniles.

But this is not all that the library council is prepared to do in order to inculcate and foster the habit of reading. Their aim is to make it possible for all who really desire to read to have the fullest opportunity of using the books in the Children's Section.

Hence has been evolved the happy idea of a club subscription of 5s. per annum. Some interested adult, very likely a teacher from one of our schools, takes out a club ticket and this entitles the club to take out of the Children's Library six volumes at a time. This is in effect making the library free and yet it maintains that valuable feeling of membership. There can be very few young people really desirous of reading who are prevented from indulging this laudable hobby by the lack of less than 1s. per annum, or 1d a month. It is just not free and in its effect on the character this may be regarded rather as an advantage than a disadvantage.

That this section of the library's work is of great educational value is recognised by the Education Department and in acknowledgment of these services (in effect each school in Pietermaritzburg can use the Natal Society Library as its own), the Provincial Administration makes an annual grant to the Society of £100.

Randfontein.—*A Library for Randfontein.*—For several years the subject of a public library for Randfontein has been canvassed, and in response to a well-attended meeting called by the Mayor (Mr. J.B. MacKenzie) the project took shape.—Mr. M. Stirling, the State Librarian, who had come from Pretoria for the purpose of addressing the meeting, advised on the lay-out of a library, and suggested that it should be free.

Mr. MacKenzie said that an amount of £2,000 was on the loan funds for the purpose of forming a library, and that the Town Council was anxious to meet the wishes of the Randfontein public in the matter. A motion supporting the establishment of a library was carried unanimously. (*The Star*, 5.4.34).

South African Institute of Race Relations.

In the latest issue of *Race Relations*, the official journal of the South African Institute of Race Relations, it is stated that the University of the Witwatersrand has placed a room in the new library building at the disposal of the Institute for the housing of its library and information bureau.—It has also set aside a room for the use of non-Europeans who wish to use the Gubbins Collection of Africana, which, under the trust deed, must be accessible to all sections of the population.

"There is no other library open to non-Europeans in Johannesburg," the journal states. "The Institute's library will be available to all members of the Institute."

South African Public Library.—*Muir Collection.*

(*The Star*, 16.3.34).

Capetown.—Provision is made in the will of the late Sir Thomas Muir, the famous mathematician, at one time Superintendent-General of Education for South Africa, for the establishment of a fund to enable the South African Public Library to add to the nucleus of a mathematical library already bequeathed to the library by him.

One clause states: "I leave to my daughter, Nellie Brown Muir (Mrs. Karl Spilhaus), all my books, to be distributed by her after my death in such manner as I may direct during my lifetime, or, failing such direction, in such manner as she may think proper, feeling convinced that, knowing my wishes, she will in the absence of special direction dispose of the volumes in such a manner as I would approve."

Another clause provides that on the death of his elder son and his wife the capital sum left to him "shall become the property of the trustees of the South African Public Library, by whom the interest on it shall be used to help towards the formation of a mathematical library as complete in other branches of mathematics as my mathematical library is in its special line."

All books left in his will on March 1, 1911, to his daughter, Nellie Brown Muir, for distribution he desires to place in the same category. His science medals, framed addresses, pictures, and such things as she may consider to lack personal interest for her, may be distributed, also the manuscript to Vol. V. of his *History of determinants*.

Other papers of a similar character he desires to be given to the Royal Society of Edinburgh to be placed for consultation in the library of the Society as the Council may deem best. (*The Star*, 31.3.34).

Approximately a further £3,000 will be received by the Trustees for the extension of the library, especially in the field of applied mathematics.

The Professors of Pure Mathematics at Cape Town and Stellenbosch are associated with the Librarian in the care and building up of the Collection. It is to be accommodated with steel shelving and housed in the Fairbridge wing.

THE INDEXING OF SOUTH AFRICAN PERIODICALS ⁽¹⁾

by ELIZABETH HARTMANN.

It may appear inopportune to wish to inflict yet another undertaking upon the Association when there are more fundamentally important matters crying out for attention. But the organisation of a national library service, the promotion of library legislation, and the provision of facilities for professional training are things which of necessity devolve largely on the Council. While the leaders, often under considerable pressure from their own work, are devoting their attention to these, surely the body of librarians are prepared to do what little service may be within their power towards making the South African library system as serviceable as possible: and the present undertaking as we see it is to be essentially a coöperative effort.

In his paper on "Closer coöperation between the libraries of South Africa", read before the Transvaal Branch of the Association in 1931 ⁽²⁾ Mr. Freer mentioned coöperative book-purchase and inter-library loans, and their essential adjunct, a union catalogue, as well as the *indexing of valuable periodicals published in South Africa* as being "some of the things not just worth doing, but in many cases crying out to be done".

There are still many librarians, and more readers, who have no true conception of the value of indexes to periodicals for purposes both of pleasure and profit. The research student, whether he is studying for professional purposes or for his own satisfaction, whose aim it is to establish new facts in the light of old, relies on the accounts contained in periodicals to keep him informed of latest advances in knowledge, so that instead of expending his energy unprofitably on repeating a piece of work already done elsewhere, he may go ahead and *apply* previous knowledge.

To the student of sociological questions it is further of the first importance that he knows the trend of contemporary *thought* that he may gauge judiciously present and probable reactions to social conditions.

(1) Substance of a paper in support of the motion "that a committee be appointed to take up the question of indexing South African periodicals not elsewhere dealt with", placed before the First triennial conference of the S.A.L.A., September 1933, in Johannesburg.

(2) Printed in *L.A.R.* 3. ser. vol. ii: 105-11, Apl. 1932.

In the absence of a cumulative index serving as a guide, at a single consultation, to the contents of all important periodicals, the student spends much time paging fruitlessly through numerous volumes. Even then important contributions to a subject do sometimes appear in journals not strictly devoted to the particular branch of knowledge concerned. It is the collective index that will draw attention to such material, of whose existence the student might otherwise remain in ignorance.

To those wanting existing knowledge rather than searching for new facts, such a guide is equally valuable to ensure that they will get full measure.

In South Africa particularly, where systematic study of conditions of vital importance is making such strides in the immediate present, much very valuable information is stored in the pages of periodical publications of various descriptions — periodicals as ordinarily understood, government publications, and the monographic publications issued in series by various Government departments and by Universities. Such are *i. a.* the *Bulletins* and *Pamphlets* of the Department of Agriculture, the *Reports* of the Board of Trade and Industries, the *Annals of the University of Stellenbosch*, and series of publications of other universities. Even newspapers may occasionally contain worth-while articles.

As a specific illustration of the value of indexes, reference may be made to the case of Afrikaans literature. The critical attitude towards literature, which is the *sine qua non* for the development of literary standard among readers and writers alike, is slowly awakening. By making available a collective index of the Afrikaans literary papers we may encourage readers to adopt the desirable habit of following up their reading by consulting the opinions expressed by recognised authorities.

Moreover, the files of both *Die Huisgenoot* and *Die Nuwe brandwag* contain such a wealth of articles and illustrations on art, literature, and historical, social and scientific subjects in a concise, readable form for the general reader, which is often so difficult to find, that it is a thousand pities that these should fall into obscurity for want of indexing.

In English *The Critic*, recently born, covers a wide range of interests, while *The South African journal of science* embraces a catholicity of topics more intensively treated.

And then the extensive files of the older periodicals: the *Cape Almanacs*, the *Zuid-Afrikaansche Tijdschrift*, *Transactions of the South African Philosophical Society* ! One would wish to set all the world a-indexing to explore the information hidden there.

Indexing for private and official reference is already being done to an as yet unassessed extent, as for instance in the libraries of the Transvaal

Chamber of Commerce, the Onderstepoort Veterinary Research Laboratory, and presumably in many of the Government departments. It would be a truly regrettable duplication of effort if two people were unwittingly regularly analysing the same material, whilst other periodicals remained veiled in obscurity. And since the work *is* being done, why not make the fruits available to everyone who may have use of them?

Particular mention may be made here of the various subject lists published by the Library of Parliament: in 1927, "Guide to the publications dealing with the relations between Europeans and coloured and backward races in the Library of Parliament", and, in 1931, "Gids tot die publikasies in en oor Afrikaans in die Parlementsbiblioteek". Periodical supplements, as well as further lists on economics and politics have been promised, but have not yet appeared; a revised and greatly enlarged issue of the Afrikaans list is, however, in the press. All of these incorporate a considerable number of periodical articles, although these are confined to the holdings of the Library of Parliament. Obviously valuable work is here being done, which any committee that may be appointed will seek to incorporate in its scheme. On the other hand the Library of Parliament itself would benefit by obtaining outside entries and so increasing the bibliographical value of the lists.

Mention must also be made of the index to the *Wesleyan Missionary Notices* in the Gubbins' Collection, which had been begun by volunteers but was destroyed in the fire at the Witwatersrand University.

In another direction, the National Bureau of Education has launched a campaign for the preservation and listing of academic theses on sociological and educational subjects, which might usefully be incorporated.

The first care of a committee would, therefore, be to investigate existing activities, which may prove to be more widespread than one suspects. Duplication of labour could be eliminated, and arrangements made to have entries supplied to headquarters.

Next, publishers of periodicals might be approached. Such of them as already issue indexes might easily be persuaded to have the work done currently and on uniform cards or slips, and many others would probably receive the proposal sympathetically.

The residue could then be allotted to a panel of volunteers recruited by the committee, each undertaking responsibility for one or more journals. If necessary, students and scholars might be found outside the Association, who would be willing to do this service in the interests of their subject, and with their expert knowledge might well be desirable persons to co-opt.

Although the original motion read: "South African serials *not elsewhere dealt with*", I think it would be desirable to deal with all of them locally.

The number of titles at present included in overseas indexes is negligible: the *South African journal of science* in the Library Association's *Subject index to periodicals*; *Farming in South Africa* and the *Bulletins* of the Department of Agriculture in Wilson's *Agricultural index*, and a few in the *Quarterly cumulative index medicus*. The first issue, for 1930, of the *Repertorium voor Nederlandsche letterkunde*, issued under the auspices of the *Rijkscommissie van advies inzake het biblioteekwezen* of the Netherlands indexed the *Annale van die Universiteit van Stellenbosch*; *Die Nuwe brandwag*; *Tydskrif vir wetenskap en kuns*; *Die Unie*; and *Zuid-Afrika*, but no further numbers have been issued.

In any case, material hot from the press might be missed in the interval before overseas indexes become available here, and the advantages of having entries amalgamated in one place of consultation are indisputable.

At present activities could be confined to a manuscript index on cards or slips to be written by the volunteers and filed by an honorary editor, to whom readers could apply for references. The major expenses would be those of cards or slips and postages. These are not likely to be extensive and we hope that the Association will be able and willing to meet them.

Publication will probably have to be postponed indefinitely. It would, however, be well worth the while of an indexing committee to explore recent developments in processes for photographic reproduction of documents, which would probably work out considerably cheaper than printing.

But even a manuscript index should justify its maintenance if its existence and service be sufficiently advertised. *I. a.* it would serve as a basis for subject reading lists for individuals, and possibly for publication in the *Journal* from time to time. Moreover, an early start would be further rewarded in the event of ultimate publication of an index, which could then be made retrospective for at least recent years.

Every delay in making a start on the undertaking means that someone may be working in ignorance of the existence of some to him valuable material. If we wait till librarians at large have more leisure we might as well abandon the project once for all. And with a proper conviction of the worth-whileness of the object we can make time for many things. Mr. Freer has taken upon himself the editing of the journal, Mr. Kennedy the organisation of correspondence courses, and we trust that some other colleagues may be found to accept guardianship of the Index.

BLOEMFONTEIN'S LIBRARY WEEK

by G. OPPENHEIM.

The struggle for free library service which has already resulted in several victories in the Transvaal, is really only just in its initial stages, and an essential for its success is the cultivation in South Africa of a public that is conscious of its needs and rights in this direction. It was to show the public what they lack in respect of adequate library service in Bloemfontein as well as to raise funds for the Children's Free Library, that "Library Week" was organised.

"Library Week" commenced auspiciously on Saturday, 10th March. Gay banners advertising the Library and made by the Library Staff of red and white material fluttered prominently across Maitland Street, arresting posters were displayed in the town and in the trams and sandwich boys walked the streets with boards that announced in bold lettering that although Kroonstad spends 2/4 per head of its population on its Library, Bloemfontein only spends 4d.

At various street corners sat ladies, requesting the public to sign a petition to the Town Council, asking that they take over full control of the Library as soon as possible, and that they make it free. The petition met with excellent response, and was signed by 2,890 citizens.

From the first day of the "Week" the Library became a popular topic of conversation. This, of course, was largely due to the generous support that was given to our efforts by the local press, which published excellent leaders on Bloemfontein's claims to better library facilities, articles on the Week, and a clever cartoon in *The Friend* depicting Bloemfontein as a Fairy God-mother to sport and recreation, but as Old Mother Hubbard to the Library.

By the courtesy of the African Broadcasting Company, we were able to broadcast every evening during the "Week" for ten minutes. Our programme which was as follows, and which was equally divided between English and Afrikaans, was arranged to be propaganda to the Library only in that it was interesting and entertaining :

Saturday	Prof. Logeman (Chairman of the Committee) introduced Library Week, and Dr. D. F. Malherbe read an extract from his book <i>Die hart van Moab</i> .
Monday	Mr. L. Marquard spoke on the Historical Novel.
Tuesday	Mrs. C. L. Botha recited "Katrina" & "Die Voortrekker" by Denis Lefebvre.

- Wednesday Dr. D. Hopwood spoke on Limericks.
Thursday Miss. E. v. d. Spuy recited *Kindergediggies* by H. Postma.
Friday A one-act play was read by the Library Players under the direction of Miss L. Herberg.
Saturday Mr. A. Kieser, Archivist of the Free State, spoke on the early days of Bloemfontein.

During the Week we also had a very successful play reading at the Library of "You never can tell".

Other means by which we kept the Library in the public eye during the Week were as follows. We asked all the local ministers to mention the value and inspiration of books and libraries in their sermons on the Sunday and we gave talks on the uses of the Library to school children at the schools and at the Library.

Prizes were offered to the school children for the best essay on "My favourite book and why" and for the best poster advertising "Library Week." The posters were displayed in a shop window and attracted a great deal of attention. Skill in execution, which was the predominant factor in the work of the older children, was compensated for in the entries of the younger ones by an amazing wealth of original ideas, especially in the composition of slogans. "Oh Boy! come to the Lib." is an example, while another small girl depicted on her poster a dog turning eagerly from his bone to a book, the accompanying slogan ran: "He makes no bones about it, he prefers his Library Book"!

The Children's Library benefited greatly from the Week. The Scouts and Voortrekkers went round from house to house collecting Children's books which were no longer wanted by their owners, they also formed a mile of pennies for the Children's Library. Members of the Committee organised a Street Collection, and also went round asking donations, so that the Children's Free Library benefited to the extent of about £70 as well as a few hundred new books.

The Week concluded with a public lecture on Libraries by Mr. M. M. Stirling, who came down from Pretoria to give us his assistance. His very excellent lecture in which he attacked the state of Libraries in South Africa and made an eloquent plea for Free Libraries was greatly appreciated by all who heard it.

"Library Week" involved an enormous amount of work on the part of both the Library Committee and Staff. But it was well worth it, for so emphatically were our needs and grievances aired before the Public, that our Town Council has given us a substantial increase in our municipal grant.

PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION.

In accordance with the decision of the Council and the Education Sub-Committee the first Examinations of the S. A. L. A. will be held as follows :—

ELEMENTARY SECTION (only).

- (i) August 2nd, 1934 9.30 a.m. — 12.30 p.m.
Literature of Afrikaans or English.
- (ii) August 2nd, 1934 2.p.m. — 5 p.m.
Cataloguing, Classification and Routine.
- (iii) August 3rd, 1934 9.30 a.m. — 11 a.m.
The Literature not taken under (i) (optional).

Conditions of Entry. *

Candidates must be 17 years of age and must be members of the South African Library Association.

In addition to passing at the actual Examination candidates will be required to give evidence of consistent study. In the case of candidates who have followed the Correspondence Courses, marks obtained for questions answered will be taken into consideration. Candidates who have prepared for the Examination by private study may submit (a) notes written in the course of their preparation (to be handed to the invigilator at the examination); or, (b) such other evidence as may on special application be deemed acceptable to the Sub-Committee (Such evidence to be stated when applying for admission to the Examination).

Closing Date of Entry.

Entries must reach the Secretary not later than July 9th. When sending in entries candidates should state at which centre they wish to sit, and as far as possible arrangements will be made accordingly.

Fees.

Elementary Examination taken as a whole.	10/-
Parts taken separately.	5/-

Syllabus for the Elementary Examination.

Part I. Literature of Afrikaans or English (Landmarks up to modern times). (One paper of 3 hours).

* The complete scheme of Examination for the Certificate and Diploma of the S.A.L.A. will be printed and circulated shortly.

Part II The Literature not taken under I, to be written in the language of the subject. A lower standard will be expected than in I. (One paper of 1½ hours).

Note :— Alternatively this Part II may be taken as Part III of the Intermediate Examination.

Part III. Cataloguing, Classification and Routine. (One paper of 3 hours).

Detailed Syllabuses.

I. AFRIKAANSE LETTERKUNDE. Examiner : Professor C. M. van den Heever.

1. Algemene oorsig van die geskiedenis van die Eerste en Tweede Taalbeweging.
2. Algemene oorsig van die Afrikaanse Letterkunde, met spesiale kennis van die volgende figure :—
 - i. Poësie : Eugène Marais, J. F. E. Celliers, Totius, C. L. Leipoldt, D. F. Malherbe, A. G. Visser, Theo Wassenaar, Toon van den Heever, J. R. L. van Bruggen, T. J. Haarhoff, C. M. van den Heever.
 - ii. Prosa : S. J. Du Toit, J. Lion Cachet, G. S. Preller, C. J. Langenhoven, D. F. Malherbe, Jochem van Bruggen, Léon Maré, Sangiro, Marie Linde, Eva Walter, C. L. Leipoldt, C. M. van den Heever, E. B. Grosskopf, S. Bruwer, G. C. en S. B. Hobson, Abraham Jonker, J. van Melle, David J. Coetsee, Mikro, Dirk Mostert.
 - iii. Drama : Melt J. Brink, A. Francken, J. F. E. Celliers, C. J. Langenhoven, J. F. W. Grosskopf, D. F. Malherbe, H. A. Fagan, Mevr. Jansen, C. L. Leipoldt, J. J. Muller, W. J. Pienaar, J. C. B. van Niekerk, P. W. S. Schumann, E. A. Schlengemann, Eugène Marais.
 - iv. Oorspronklike werke uit Bloemlesing.

Voorgeskrewe Werke.

1. NIENABER, G. S. Die Afrikaanse beweging. Deel I : Geskiedkundige oorsig. Van Schaik, 1931.

5/-

PIENAAR, E. C. Taal en poësie van die Twede Afrikaanse taalbeweging ; 4. verm. druk. Nasionale pers, 1931. *Inleiding.* 10/6

2. i. PIENAAR, E. C. t. a. p. Hoofst. III. Toepaslike gedeeltes.
- ii. SCHOONEES, P. C. Die prosa van die Tweede Afrikaanse taalbeweging ; 2. druk. Kaapstad : H. A. U. M., 1927. 8/-
Toepaslike gedeeltes.
- iii. DRAMA. Getikte aantekeninge in verband met die korrespondensie kursus uitgestuur.
- iv. MALHERBE, D. F. Afrikaanse letterkunde : 'n bloemlesing ; 6. druk. Bloemfontein : Nasionale pers. 1927. 6/9
(Nuwe druk, tot hede aangevul, *in voorbereiding*).
L. W. Die jongste letterkunde is alleen behandel in kritieke in tydskrifte en koerante. Die vernaamste is : *Die Huisgenoot* ; *Die Nuwe brandwag* ; *Die Vaderland* (Pretoria) ; *Die Burger* (Kaapstad).

Aanbevole Werke.

1. VON WIELLIGH, G. R. Baanbrekerswerk. Van Schaik, 1925. 4/3
— Eerste skrywers. Van Schaik, 1922. 6/-
2. KRITZINGER, M.S.B. Letterkundige kragte. Van Schaik, 1932, 5/-
— Oor skrywers en boeke. Van Schaik, 1932. 4/6
- 1 en 2. AFRIKAANSE STUDENTEBOND. Gedenkboek ter eere [!] van die Genootskap van Regte Afrikaners. [Potchefstroom]: Die A. S. B., 1926. 13/6

II. ENGLISH LITERATURE. Examiner : Professor J. Y. T. Greig.
This examination will be arranged in two parts.

- (1) *Literary history*. Candidates are expected to possess such outline knowledge of English literary history from Chaucer to 1870 as may be obtained from the compendious textbooks set out below. Special attention should be paid to the *literary history* of the following writers : Chaucer, Spenser, Marlowe, Shakespeare, Ben Jonson, Milton, Bunyan, Dryden, Swift, Addison, Pope, Fielding, Samuel Johnson, Goldsmith, Burns, Jane Austen, Wordsworth, Scott, Lamb, Byron, Shelley, Keats, Carlyle, Tennyson, Thackeray, Dickens, The Brownings, The Brontës, George Eliot.
- (2) *General modern literary knowledge*. Candidates are expected to obtain such outline knowledge of present-day English literature as may be obtained from the study of Manly & Rickert's *Contemporary British literature*.

Questions calling for knowledge of the general texts of writers will not be asked, but candidates are expected to read thoroughly *the London book of English prose*; *The modern muse*; and *the Oxford book of English verse*, and may be asked any question upon them, other than questions testing verbal memory.

Text Books.

- | | |
|---|------|
| BROOKE, S.A. Primer of English literature. Macmillan, 1932. | 2/3 |
| BUCHAN, J., ed. A history of English literature. Nelson, 1923. | 10/6 |
| CUNLIFFE, J. W. English literature: Modern, 1453-1914. Butterworth. | 2/6 |
| GROOM, B. A Literary history of England. Longmans, 1929. | 8/6 |
| * LEGOUIS, E. and CAZAMIAN, L. A history of English literature; rev. ed. Dent, 1933. | 10/6 |
| * LONDON book of English prose; ed. by Herbert Read and Bonamy Dobrée. Eyre & Spottiswoode, 1931. | 7/6 |
| MANLY, J. M. and RICKERT, E. Contemporary British literature; rev. and enl. Harrap, 1928. | 7/6 |
| * THE MODERN MUSE: poems of to-day. English Assoc., 1934. | 5/- |
| * OXFORD book of English verse. Oxford. | 8/6 |
| * = most essential. | |

Reference Book.

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| HARVEY, Sir Paul, ed. The Oxford companion to English literature. Clarendon press, 1932. | 15/- |
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III. CATALOGUING, CLASSIFICATION and ROUTINE. Examiners: R. F. Kennedy, F. L. A. and Miss P. M. Speight, B. A., F. L. A.

- (1) *Routine.* Functions and departments of a public library. The Free Library. Routine work of lending, reference and children's libraries. News and magazine rooms. Registration of borrowers. Systems of issue. Fines and overdue. Ordering and accession methods. Preparation of books for circulation. Value of statistics. Care and repair of books. Relations of staff and readers. Periodicals register. Shelf register. Library co-operation.
- (2) *Cataloguing.* Author, subject and title entries. Elucidation of the title-page. Classified, form and series entries.

- (3) *Classification*. Utility. Elements of the Dewey Decimal Classification (order of classes and main divisions ; form classes and form divisions ; geographical subdivision ; the notation and index). General rules for classifying books. Practical application to the shelves.

Text and Reference Books.

(1) *Routine.*

i. *Essential books.*

- AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION. *Committee on book-binding*. Care and binding of books and magazines. A. L. A., 1928. 50 ¢
- BROWN, J. D. *Manual of library economy* ; 4. ed. by W. C. B. Sayers. Grafton, 1931. 30/-
- DOUBLEDAY, W. E. *Manual of library routine*. Liby. Assoc., 1933. 10/6
- LIBRARY ASSOCIATION. *Small municipal libraries: a manual of modern method* ; 2. ed., ed. by J. M. Mitchell. Liby. Assoc., 1933. 5/6

ii. *Reference books.*

- BOSTWICK, A. E. *The American public library*. N. Y: Appleton, 1929. 10/6
- COCKERELL, D. *Bookbinding and the care of books* ; 4. ed. Pitman, 1927. 7/6
- DOUBLEDAY, W. E., *ed.* *A primer of librarianship*. Liby. Assoc., 1931. 7/6
- GRAY, D. *County library systems*. Grafton, 1922. 7/6
- GREAT BRITAIN, *Public libraries committee*. *Report on public libraries in England and Wales*. H. M. S. O., 1927. (Cmd. 2868). 6/-
- HARROD, L. M. *Lending library methods*. Grafton, 1933. 12/6
- MACLEOD, R. D. *County rural libraries*. Grafton, 1923. 10/6
- MILLER, Z. K. *How to organize a library* ; 8. ed. rev. N. Y: Liby. bureau, 1933. gratis
- SAYERS, W. C. B. *A manual of children's libraries*. L. A., 1932. 10/6
- WARNER, J. *Reference library methods*. Grafton, 1928. 12/6

(2) *Cataloguing.*i. *Essential books.*

- AKERS, S. G. Simple library cataloguing; 2. ed., rev.
Chicago : A. L. A., 1933. \$1.50
- ORMEROD, J. Style in card cataloguing; 2. ed. Bir-
mingham: Cambridge, 1934. 1/-
- SAYERS, W.C.B. First steps in annotation in catalogues;
2. ed., rev. London: Assoc. of Assistant Librarians,
1932. 7d

ii. *Reference books.*

- CATALOGUING rules, author and title entries; comp. by
committees of the A. L. A. and the (British) Library
Association; English ed. (facs. repr.). Liby. Assoc.,
1930. 5/-
- SEARS, M. E. List of subject headings for small
interleaved libraries; 3. ed. N. Y: Wilson, 1933. \$2.75
- Contains: "Practical suggestions for the beginner in subject heading work."*

(3) *Classification.*i. *Essential.*

- SAYERS, W.C.B. Introduction to library classification;
3. ed. Grafton, 1929. 10/6

ii. *Reference book.*

- DEWEY, M. Decimal classification and relative index.
N. Y: Lake Placid club; 12. ed., 1927; or, 13. ed.,
1933. 2 v. or 2 v. in one. \$6.50

Miscellaneous.

Any of the text books for Part III may be borrowed from the Library of the South African Library Association, P. O. Box 397, Pretoria.

The next Correspondence Courses will commence in January, 1935. For the benefit of candidates wishing to sit in December, 1934, the Tutors have declared themselves willing to give unofficial assistance to anyone seeking it. (Tutors:— Afrikaans: Miss E. Hartmann, University of the Witwatersrand Library, Johannesburg; English: Miss P. M. Speight, Public Library Johannesburg; Cataloguing: Mr. P. Freer, University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg; Classification: Mr. R. F. Kennedy, Public Library, Johannesburg; Routine: Mr. E. A. Borland, Public Library, Germiston).